Minutes: Iowa Council for Early ACCESS

Date: January 21, 2011 Time: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Place: Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston, Iowa

Welcome

Julie Hahn welcomed Council members and guests.

It was announced that Beth Troutman has resigned. It was suggested that she be asked to present her foster care research findings at a future meeting.

Members were asked to write down topics that they want scheduled for future meetings.

Parent Story Scott Stran

Aaron was born with Fragile X syndrome, a genetic disorder that causes development delays. Their pediatrician told them about Early ACCESS. Early ACCESS helped them get the therapies Aaron needed and helped identify other resources available through DHS. He received in-home speech therapy and physical therapy, as well as special shoes that were needed due to the tendons in his ankles. Scott stated that Early ACCESS gave them the tools to help them know what to do outside of sessions, and they are extremely happy with everything Early ACESS has done for them. Aaron is able to attend preschool full time this year.

After Aaron was tested, the Stran's discovered that their two older children were also born with Fragile X syndrome. Their oldest daughter was too old for Early ACCESS assistance, but their older son, Noah, was able to use Early ACCESS services.

Approve Minutes

Motion by Michael Acarregui to approve the minutes from November 19, 2010, as submitted, second by Robert Anderson; motion passed unanimously.

Legislative **Update**

Representative Lisa Heddens was scheduled to speak, but she was unable to attend the meeting.

Julie Curry reviewed Advise and Assist responsibilities.

- Discussed bylaws, Constituency, Exploring Advise, Exploring Assist, Exploring Advocacy, Federal limits to lobbying, and state ethics laws.
- Encouraged members to represent their constituencies.

Julie Hahn discussed Day on the Hill coming up on February 9, 2011. Please let Marion Kresse know if you'd like to attend.

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Annual Performance Report

C-1 Timely Services presented by Cindy Weigel.

ICEA members were given a summary of state and regional data for timely services. In prior years, Early ACCESS used the date of the initial meeting as the start of services. At the last OSEP visit it was pointed out that the start date is the date each individual service begins. The ICEA discussed reasons for missing IFSP meetings and the distinction between family reasons and staff issues. It was noted that there were regional differences in the number of service delays due to family reasons. It was suggested that Early ACCESS state staff work with Regional Grantees to determine if these kinds of delays could be reduced.

C3 – Child Outcomes presented by Dee Gethmann

ICEA members reviewed the skill sets children need to succeed.

- 1. Social/emotional
- 2. Acquisition of knowledge
- 3. Use of appropriate behavior

IFSP teams rate each child's development at entry and when they exit services. The two scores are compared to see if they have made progress. ICEA members broke into three groups to review each of the skill areas listed above. Their input will be included with Indicator CE Early Childhood Outcomes section of the APR.

Recommended targets for the two year extension were discussed. Motion made by Heather Moorman to increase 1.5% annually for each target; second by Michael Bergan. The motion passed unanimously.

Medicaid Update

Jim Donoghue

Presented a summary of Early ACCESS services funded by Medicaid.

Reports

- The Executive Committee met in December. Meeting discussions included Data-Informed Decision Making, the Early ACCESS Annual Report to the Governor, and Late Pre-term Births.
- The Membership committee reported that 11 new members will need to be recruited for next year.
- The Parent and Public Awareness Committees worked on plans for Day on the Hill in February.
- The Governor's Report Committee noted that the final report was submitted and that members had copies in their folders.

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Sharing

- Gina Greene said that the "I Am Norm" campaign continues to grow. A person has been hired full time to manage it.
- Paula Connolly is doing a workshop that deals with strategies for working with children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).
 There is training in Des Moines in March.
- Aryn Kruse said the Prevent Child Abuse Conference deals with home intervention and collaborating with professionals (May 6-7, 2011).
- Meghan Wolfe said that First five received a funding cut.
- Michael Acarregui attended a prenatal conference on fetal alcohol syndrome and behavioral issues.
- Michael Bergan Attended a workshop for seven county area concerning foster care referrals for 0-3 year olds.
- Marion Kresse said that the fetal alcohol syndrome training center will sponsor a workshop for professionals in Iowa this summer.
- Margaret Baker attended the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) conference in Washington DC – www.aucd.org/template/index.cfm. Autism research is available on-line at the Interactive Autism Network, www.IANproject.org.
- Gladys Alvarez is organizing a conference on psychological trauma,
 Trauma Informed Care, and how it affects a child's life on June 14-15 in Des Moines.
- Debra Waldron gave out new Child Health Specialty Clinics brochures.
- Carrie Sodders attended Positive Behavior and Intervention Support (PBIS) training. "Good information for parents meeting social skills development for children with special needs."
- Julie Curry said the National Infant and Toddler Coordinator Association is partnering with national advocates for improved assessments so that Fragile X is identified sooner.

Adjourn

Next meeting is March 4, 2011, at the Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston, Iowa.

The next Executive Committee Meeting is February 2, 2011.

Dr. Bob Anderson made a motion to adjourn, second by Michael Bergan. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.